



# MULLIN'S NOTES

*The Official Newsletter of the 19th Assembly District*



SEPTEMBER 2007

## State Legislature Passes School Facilities Bill



Assemblymember Mullin at his desk.

Photo by Russell Collins Stiger

The Legislature passed AB 1368, authored by Assemblymember Gene Mullin (D-South San Francisco), and initiated by the Hillsborough City School District. The bill, if signed into law by the Governor, will save school districts administrative costs in the process of securing funds for the construction and modernization of school facilities. Specifically, the bill eliminates the requirement that Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs) be renewed annually. BANs are short-term debt instruments secured by

the proceeds from the future sale of a local general obligation bond.

Each time a BAN is renewed, districts must pay legal fees, underwriting fees and other associated administrative costs. Since local bond funds are used to pay back the BAN, this has the effect of reducing the amount of bond funds for school facilities.

"This bill allows K-12 and community college districts to issue the original BAN for up to five years and eliminates the annual renewal requirement. This

will ensure that bond funds are used for school facilities and not administrative fees. K-12 and community college districts throughout the state will save millions of dollars if this bill is signed into law. The Hillsborough City School District alone has estimated savings of almost \$2 million," said Assemblymember Mullin.

The bill now goes to the Governor's Desk. The deadline for the Governor to sign or veto all bills is October 14, 2007.

## ASSEMBLY SESSION SCHEDULE

The Assembly has  
adjourned Upon Call  
of the Speaker.

# September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month



Members of the California Department of Firefighters give away free barbecue.

Photo by Mark Nagales

As the Assemblymember for the 19th Assembly District, I participate in several events that allow me to connect with the community on various issues. The month of September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month and I was honored to host a barbecue with the California Department of Firefighters and Kaiser Permanente to educate the public about the importance of early screening for Prostate Cancer. This community outing gave my

office the opportunity to pass out important literature about prostate cancer, allowed a health care provider to promote the importance of earlier screening, and gave families a chance to spend a great day at the park.

Prostate Cancer is the most common cancer in men, according to American Cancer Society and the California Department of Health. One in six men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer at some point in their

lifetime. Successful treatment is possible when the cancer is detected early.

The sooner you become knowledgeable about prostate cancer and comfortable discussing the issue with your doctor, the better the chance you will take control of your health.

Talk to your doctor about prostate cancer screening. This office is available to assist you, a friend, or loved one in finding prostate cancer resources.

# Child Passenger Safety Bill On The Governor's Desk



Photo by Russell Collins Stiger

Assemblymember Mullin speaking at the State Legislature.

A significant child passenger safety bill passed the legislature and is on its way to Governor Schwarzenegger's desk just one week before National Child Passenger Safety Week. Signage of Assembly Bill 881 will bring California in compliance with federal recommendations to protect 6 and 7 year olds in our vehicles, and join 25 other states that have stronger booster seat laws.

AB 881 mirrors standards of the National Highway and Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to ensure optimal safety for children 4 to 7 years of age. "I introduced AB 881 because booster seats are an affordable and easy way to protect our vulnerable six and seven year old children from the leading cause of death," said Mullin. "Booster seat laws have been proven to be a very effective way of increasing parent awareness of the safest practices."

Existing law requires children six years or younger and weighing less than 60 pounds be transported in an approved child safety seat in the rear seat of the vehicle. AB 881 requires children to remain in their booster seats until their 8th birthday, unless they are 4'9" in height or taller. By making it an age only law it is also less confusing for both parents and law

enforcement.

Assemblymember Mullin said. "As the father of two and grandfather of three, I know how important it is to keep our children safe while riding in a car. It is imperative that we provide parents with the most accurate safety practices to protect these vulnerable 6 and 7 year olds." A study, by the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, based on eight years of crash data provided by State Farm, concluded that a booster seat reduces the risk of injury by 59%.

As a very attractive incentive, passage of this bill can qualify California to apply for SAFETEA-LU Section 2011 funds for booster seat education and low cost to no cost booster seats for families. California can potentially receive up to \$3.7 million in federal funds for the next two years to fund public education programs and to provide free and low-cost booster seats to families.

California's young children will benefit immensely by a law that provides optimal safety, a law which we hope Governor Schwarzenegger will sign and proudly restore California's important traffic safety reputation, rather than lagging behind half of the country in such a critical safety issue.

## OFFICE OF ASSEMBLYMEMBER GENE MULLIN *Staff Roster*

### Capitol Staff

Sara Ramirez

*Chief of Staff*

Darci Sears

*Legislative Director*

Steve Panages

*Legislative Aide*

Alisia Nantze

*Scheduler*

Juan Cisneros

*Receptionist*

### District Staff

Craig Donnelly

*District Director*

Sarah Phelps

*Field Representative*

Mark Nagales

*Field Representative*

Virginia Kroger

*Receptionist/Scheduler*

### Education Committee Staff

Gerry Shelton

*Chief Consultant*

Marisol Avina

*Consultant*

Misty Feusahrens

*Consultant*

Sophia Kwong

*Consultant*

Francie Rupert

*Committee Secretary*



# Spotlight on the Intern, Part 2

*As a former Government teacher, I understand the valuable experience a student can gain from interning in a legislative office. It gives a student first-hand knowledge of how their government works and provides them practical experience related to their studies or career interests. Ms. Ashleigh Blake has greatly contributed to my office and I have asked her to write about her experience as an intern.*

—Assemblymember Gene Mullin

BY ASHLEIGH BLAKE

STUDENT INTERN

I have always been interested in interning for a local elected official. In my history, government, and economics classes, I often raised my hand for questions asked of the class. I decided

that in order to become fully aware of the legal system and current issues, I needed to take more advanced classes to stimulate my curiosity. I also wanted to apply my knowledge of American government by participating in an internship.

Since I began interning for Assemblymember Mullin, I have been given responsibilities that impact the community. Every day, I have the opportunity to change the community in a positive way by interacting with constituents, reviewing current political decisions and issues, and distributing important resources and information to the community.

I hope that in the near future, my actions will have a positive impact within the 19th Assembly District.

## ASSEMBLYMEMBER GENE MULLIN *Committees*

**Standing Committees:** Education (Chair) • Budget • Budget Subcommittee #2 – Education Finance • Budget Subcommittee #4 – State Administration • Housing and Community Development • Public Employees, Retirement & Social Security • Water Parks and Wildlife

**Select Committee:** Select Committee on Biotechnology (Chair)



OFFICE OF ASSEMBLYMEMBER GENE MULLIN  
1528 South El Camino Real, Suite 302  
San Mateo, CA 94402  
Phone (650) 349-1900 Fax (650) 341-4676

## HOW TO CONTACT US

### Capitol Office

State Capitol  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249  
(916) 319-2019  
(916) 319-2119 Fax

### District Office

1528 South El Camino Real  
Suite 302  
San Mateo, CA 94402  
(650) 349-1900  
(650) 341-4676 Fax

For scheduling inquiries,  
email [virginia.kroger@asm.ca.gov](mailto:virginia.kroger@asm.ca.gov) for District Events or  
[alisa.nantze@asm.ca.gov](mailto:alisa.nantze@asm.ca.gov) for Capitol Events. Include  
the date, time, and purpose  
of the event.

